

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

December 15, 2023



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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter

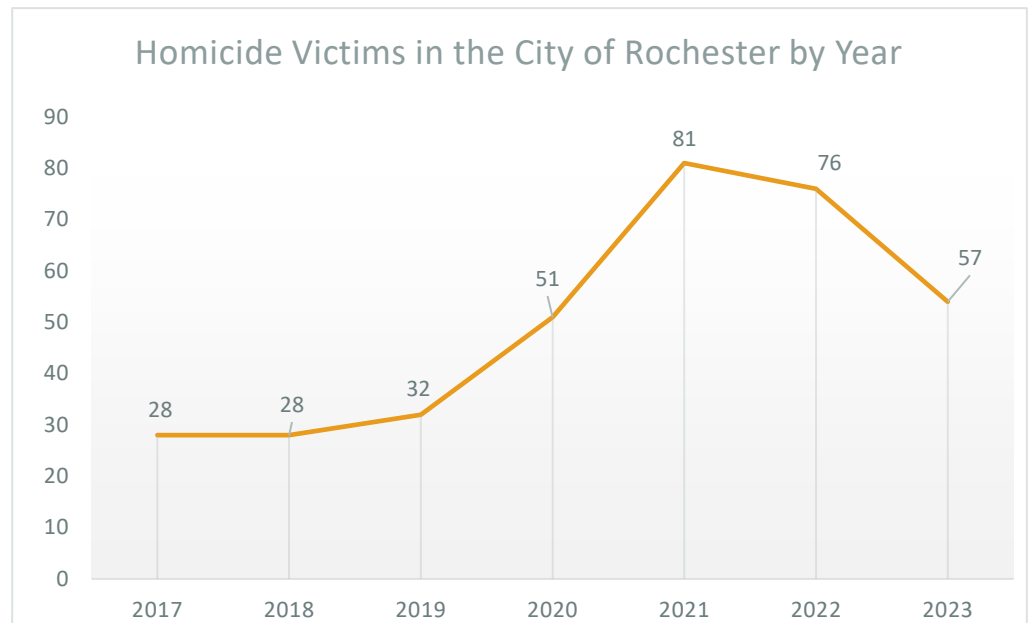


Welcome to the weekly newsletter from Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley.

Data Refresh

As we approach the end of the year, I wanted to update the community on some of our data we collect.

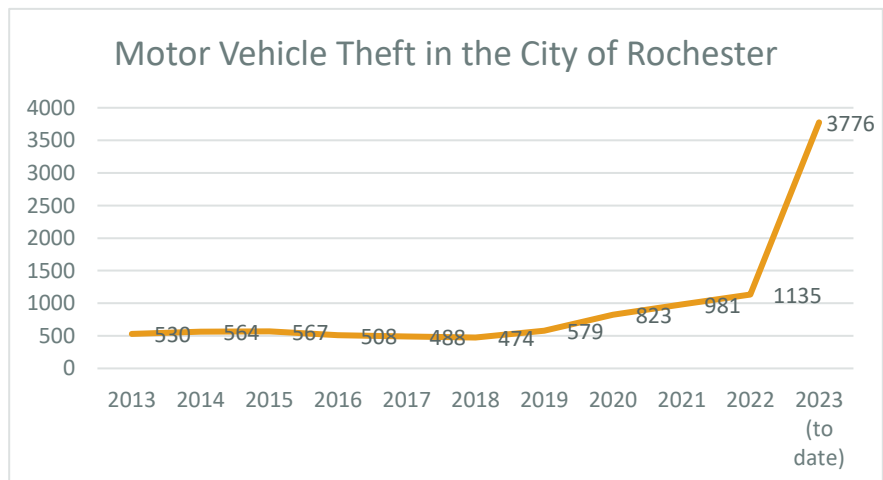
Homicides



Source – Rochester Police Department Open Data Portal

At this point in 2022, the City of Rochester recorded 76 homicides.

Motor Vehicle Thefts



Homicide Update

So far in 2023:

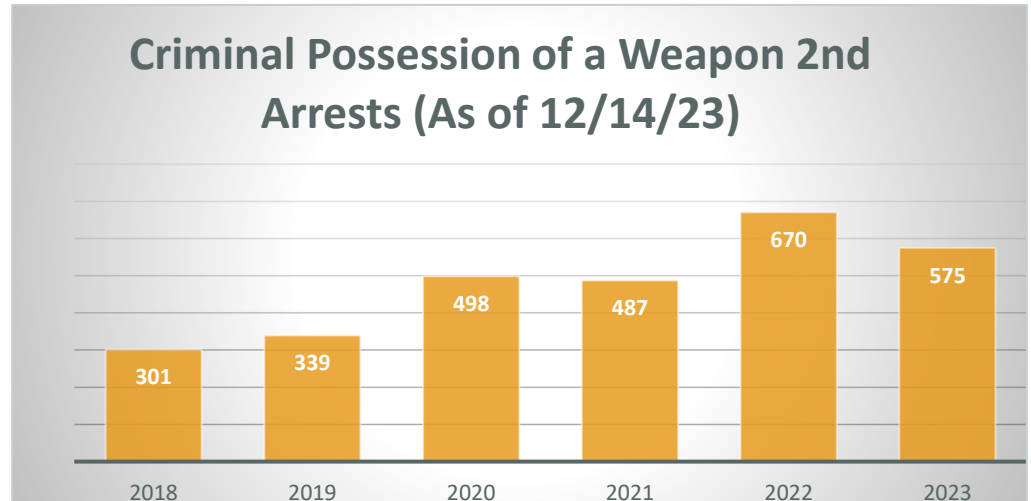
City of Rochester Total: 57

Monroe County Total: 63

Source – Rochester Police Department Open Data Portal

We will continue to focus on the record breaking number of stolen motor vehicles in the City of Rochester and throughout our entire community. I will keep you updated on any felony indictments and the disposition of these cases.

Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree



Source – Monroe County District Attorney's Office internal case data

Last year was above and beyond any number we have seen for gun arrests. These are the arrests for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree that are not attached to homicide cases.

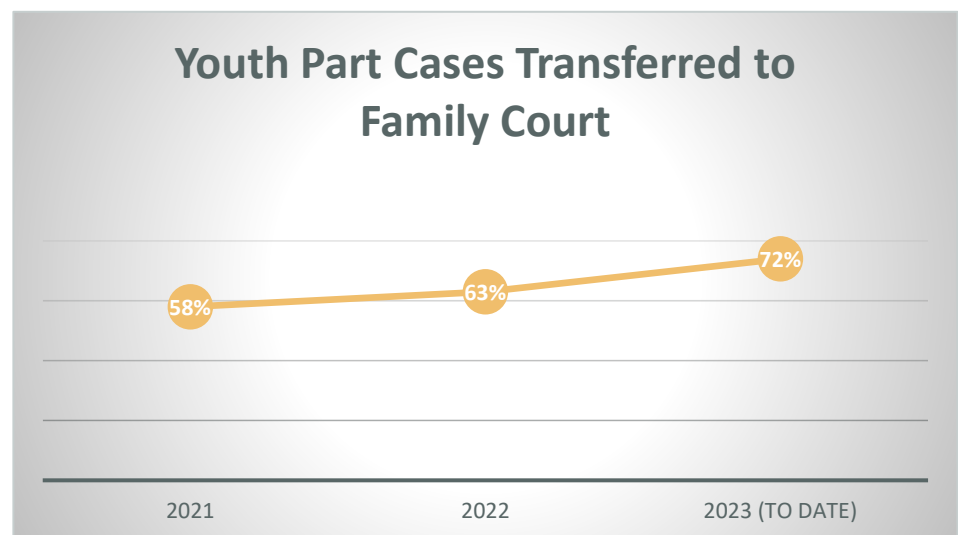
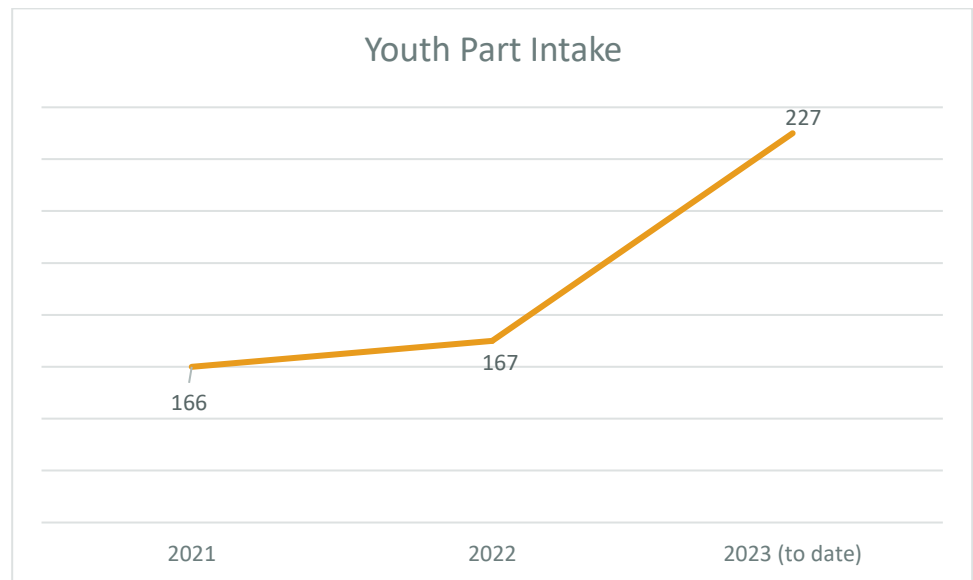
Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree Bail Status

Year	Arrests	Released at Arraignment W/ Non-Monetary Conditions	Bail Set in the Amount of 5K or less
2018	301	3%	25%
2019	339	7%	35%
2020	498	33%	63%
2021	487	17%	35%
2022	670	21%	29%
2023	575	20%	29%

Listed above is the percentage of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree arrests where non-monetary bail is being set at arraignments. I also noted the percentage of cases where cash bail was set at \$5,000 or less. Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree is a class C violent felony.

Youth Part Cases

There has been a lot of interest in youth part and juvenile prosecution. Listed below are the numbers we are seeing into Youth Criminal Part, and how many of those cases stay, or are transferred to Family Court, which is outside of our office.



Source – Monroe County District Attorney's Office internal case data

Following the Raise the Age Legislation, the Criminal Court Youth Part was created. When a 16 or 17-year-old is arrested with a misdemeanor, such as an Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree, they are sent immediately to Family Court without touching our office. Family Court is a confidential court that is handled by the Juvenile Prosecutor for Monroe County. If a 16 or 17-year-old is arrested with a felony, the case begins in Criminal Youth Part. All non-violent felonies are immediately transferred to Family Court if our office does not submit a 30-day motion to prove extraordinary circumstances. If a 16 or 17-year-old is arrested on a violent felony, the case will be transferred to Family Court unless there is significant physical injury, a weapon is displayed, or it is a sex offense. We may also submit a 30-day motion to prove extraordinary circumstances for other violent felonies as well. The judge ultimately determines if the case remains in Youth Part, or is transferred to Family Court. So far in 2023, out of the 33 arrests for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, 29, or 94%, of these cases were transferred to Family Court, usually over our objections.

I will continue to share data as we collect it. I look forward to continue presenting our findings to the community.

Sandra

Highlights from the MCDA's Office

A Monroe County Jury convicted 33-year-old **Whitney Morris** of Murder in the Second Degree for the murder of Christopher Porchea on November 26, 2021. On November 26, 2021, at approximately 6:45PM, Rochester Police Officers located 51-year-old Christopher Porchea with a gunshot wound to his upper body in a parking lot at Norton Street and North Clinton Avenue. He was taken to the hospital via ambulance, where he died from his injuries three days later. After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, the Monroe County Crime Analysis Center, and the New York State Division of Parole, Whitney Morris, a parolee and registered sex offender, was developed as a suspect. A jury found him responsible for Christopher Porchea's murder. The case was prosecuted by First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles and Assistant District Attorney Michael Harrigan, Chief of the Homicide Bureau. Whitney Morris will be sentenced on February 16, 2024, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Douglas Randall.

38-year-old **Ernest Hughey** was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Douglas Randall to 20 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. Following a jury trial, Ernest Hughey was convicted of three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. On July 17, 2022, a woman was riding in the passenger seat of a vehicle driven by Ernest Hughey. After an argument, she feared for her life and jumped out of the car. Upon fleeing the vehicle, Ernest Hughey shot at her four times from his vehicle. Thankfully, the victim was not struck by the bullets. She called Rochester Police Officers, who immediately began an investigation. The Rochester Police Department worked closely with the victim, collected casings at the scene of the shooting, and conducted a thorough investigation into the incident. When Ernest Hughey was located by Rochester Police Officers, he was found with the illegal firearm from the shooting, a pipe bomb, and body armor. After an initial struggle, Ernest Hughey was arrested by the Rochester Police Officers. The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Marcus Harris was sentenced by Acting Monroe County Court Judge Healy to 20 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. He was previously convicted by a jury of Robbery in the 1st Degree, Robbery in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. On June 11, 2022, Marcus Harris arrived at a corner store on Joseph Avenue where he confronted a man by pointing a handgun at him numerous times, eventually demanding his jewelry. Following the robbery, he ran to a motor vehicle and fled the scene. Approximately 20 minutes later, the vehicle was spotted by Rochester Police Officers and a traffic stop was attempted, however, Marcus Harris hit a Rochester Police cruiser and a chase ensued. The defendant only came to a stop when he crashed the vehicle into a utility pole. A search of crashed vehicle yielded a fully loaded Polymer 80 handgun. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and the New York State Police. Marcus Harris was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Megan Hausner, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Passion Anderson was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree in relation to the death of 1-year-old William Nichols. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Sara Vanstrydonck, Chief of the Special Victims Unit.

Sharone Thomas was indicted on two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to an assault of a police officer on August 30, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Michael Scott was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Menacing in the 2nd Degree, Unlawful Imprisonment in the 1st Degree, and Resisting Arrest in relation to multiple domestic incidents during November 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Deandre Coley was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on November 29, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Sammy Hernandez, Kemuel Garcia, and John Martinez were indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation the illegal possession of firearms on November 29, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Jasmine Vaniece Taylor was indicted on two counts of Driving While Intoxicated, Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated, and Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with a Child Passenger. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Janna Koch, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Sebastian Morales was indicted on Attempted Robbery in the 1st Degree in relation to an attempted armed robbery on August 25, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Timothy Simmons was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Karl Jones was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 2nd Degree, and Assault in the 3rd Degree in relation to a domestic incident on November 2, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Edwin Rivas-Diaz was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on November 19, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jaquan Owens was indicted on Robbery in the 1st Degree in relation to an armed robbery at a Rite Aid on August 7, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Simere Carr, Simirus Carr, and Christian Grider were indicted on two counts of Robbery in the 2nd Degree in relation to a robbery on November 14, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ellie Laloudakis, of the Youth Part/Major Felony Bureau.

Javed Javan Housen was indicted on Assault in the 1st Degree in relation to the assault of a woman with a weapon. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Corey Broomfield, Jr. was indicted on Rape in the 1st Degree in relation to a sexual assault of a child less than thirteen years old on or about and between April 1, 2023 and May 31, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ralph Alloco, of the Special Victims Unit.

Fritz Hyppolite, Jr. was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on July 8, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Caranante, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The Holiday Season!

This weekend is the Boys and Girls Club of Rochester Holiday Celebration! The Monroe County District Attorney's office collected new toys for the Boys & Girls Club of Rochester. The Boys & Girls Club Christmas Celebration provides new, wrapped, age appropriate toys for children at their annual holiday party. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the families who utilize the amazing services at the Boys and Girls Club of Rochester!



Members of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office came together to celebrate the holidays and give out awards at this year's Christmas Party! Picture below is Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley thanking everyone for their hard work!



MCDA in the News

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-found-guilty-in-2021-murder-victim-found-in-parking-lot-at-norton-n-clinton/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/rochester/parolee-sex-offender-found-guilty-in-north-clinton-avenue-murder-rochester/>

<https://original.newsbreak.com/@nik-hatziefstathiou-1748012/3261935722883-parolee-convicted-in-2021-fatal-shooting-in-rochester>

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/alternate/amp/2023-12-11-rochester-parolee-guilty-in-2021-homicide/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-sentenced-to-20-years-on-weapon-charges-after-shooting-at-woman-in-rochester>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/rochester/man-found-with-gun-pipe-bomb-sentenced-ernest-hughey-rochester/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-gets-20-years-in-prison-on-gun-charges-after-shooting-at-woman/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/12/12/whitney-morris-guilty-in-2021-shooting-death-in-rochester-ny/71888967007/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/second-trial-for-man-accused-of-1980s-murder-will-begin-in-february-after-mistrial/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/registered-sex-offender-convicted-in-2021-deadly-shooting-in-rochester>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/case-of-timothy-williams-set-to-return-to-court-after-mistrial/>



We are hiring attorneys! If you are a recent law school graduate or an experienced attorney and are interested in a career in criminal law and public service, apply with us today! More information is available on monroecounty.gov/da.